



NEWS RELEASE

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BLM a Key Player in “New” Wildlife Center Grand Opening

Taos, NM – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a lease to the Wildlife Center in Española, New Mexico, giving the Center the option to purchase the land from BLM following successful completion of a five-year development plan. The BLM played a key role in issuing the lease under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act in June 2004.

The Wildlife Center is having its grand opening on December 4, 2004.

“This is a win-win situation for the BLM and the Center,” said Taos Field Manager Sam DesGeorges. “We believe that BLM serves an important role in the community providing lands for facilities like the Wildlife Center. It also demonstrates our commitment to protecting wildlife and their habitats throughout the State,” added DesGeorges.

The Wildlife Center has cared for more than 16,000 animals that have been injured by cars, poachers or other events. Since 1986, the Center has rehabilitated 1,400 mammals, raptors, songbirds and reptiles each year. The Center tends to their wounds and provides a safe place for the animals to rest and recover. Whenever possible, the Center releases them back into safe habitats.

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